

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14239 291945Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-05

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /101 W

-----094044 300810Z /20

R 291255Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2746

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 14239

DEPT PASS STR

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT GATT UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET INTEREST IN GATT

REF: MOSCOW 13555

1. IN VIEW OF INDICATION BY SOVIET ECONOMIC OFFICIAL (REFTEL) THAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SHOWING SOME INTEREST IN GATT, QUESTION ON THIS POINT WAS PUT TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) DIVISION FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. OFFICIAL CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS ARE GIVING CONSIDERATION TO SOME FORM OF ASSOCIATION WITH GATT, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF INTEREST IN MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. MFA OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT SOVIETS WOULD PREFER SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 14239 291945Z

FORM OF OBSERVER STATUS, BUT THEIR REVIEW OF GATT RULES AND HISTORY INDICATES THAT OBSERVER STATUS IS HALFWAY HOUSE ON PATH TO FULL MEMBERSHIP, HENCE A COMMITMENT THAT THEY DO NOT WISH TO MAKE. SOURCE ALSO MENTIONED WITHOUT ELABORATION POSSIBILITY OF PARTICIPATION IN MULTILATERAL TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS AS NON-GATT MEMBER.

3. SUBORDINATE MFA OFFICIAL MONITORING CONVERSATION SAID  
THAT GOOD SOLUTION MIGHT BE IF UNCTAD AND GATT WERE TO MERGE.  
SOURCE RESPONDED THAT SUCH A MERGE WAS HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO  
OCCUR.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS SECOND RECENT INDICATION WE HAVE HEARD  
OF AT LEAST SOME SOVIET INTERNAL CONSIDERATION BEING TO  
GATT. IT CONTRASTS WITH A VERY HARD NEGATIVE LINE  
TOWARDS PROSPECTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF STEPS TOWARDS  
CONVERTIBILITY OR MEMBERSHIP IN MULTILATERAL FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AND PROBABLY REFLECTS SOVIET ASPIRATION TO ENHANCE INFLUENCE  
AND ACQUIRE INFORMATION AT LOW RISK TO OWN SYSTEM.  
MATLOCK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOREIGN TRADE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MOSCOW14239  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770356-0849  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977098/aaaaagoo.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 3e339849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MOSCOW 13555  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1327301  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET INTEREST IN GATT  
**TAGS:** EEWT, UR, GATT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3e339849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009